

MONTANA CROP PROGRESS



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
MONTANA FIELD OFFICE
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 Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CROP PROGRESS AND CONDITION WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 20, 2019

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY: Warmer and drier weather conditions were observed across the State last week, according to the Mountain Regional Field Office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA. Topsoil moisture conditions for the state were 97 percent adequate to surplus, compared to 100 percent previous week and 60 percent the previous year. Subsoil moisture conditions were rated 95 percent adequate to surplus compared to 52 percent the previous year. Reporters in McCone, Roosevelt and Sheridan counties reported weather was favorable for harvest toward the end of the week but fields are still wet. A reporter in Valley County stated most of the crops still standing in the field are only of feed quality, as sooty mold, frost and sprout have considerably impacted grain quality. Statewide, Durum wheat made some harvest progress and was reported at 75 percent complete, well behind previous years. Second cutting hay harvest continues to be slow due to wet conditions, with 97 percent of other hay harvested. Oilseed harvest continues behind schedule, with approximately 93 percent of the canola crop harvested by the end of the week. Flaxseed harvested was reported at 54 percent complete, behind the previous year at 91 percent. Safflower harvested was reported at 54 percent complete, behind both the previous year at 69 percent and the 5-year average of 68 percent. Sugarbeet harvest made progress last week with 26 percent of the crop harvested, significantly behind the previous year at 57 percent. Winter wheat planted for the 2020 crop season was estimated at 80 percent complete, behind last year at 84 percent and behind the 5-year average of 91 percent. Livestock moved from pasture is picking up, with 48 percent of cattle and calves and 42 percent of sheep and lambs moved. Cattle and calves receiving supplemental feed was estimated at 7 percent, which is below the previous year of 25 percent. Nine percent of sheep and lambs were estimated to be receiving supplemental feed, below the previous year of 25 percent.

CROP AND LIVESTOCK PROGRESS

Commodity	Current week (percent)	Previous week (percent)	Previous year (percent)	5-year average (percent)
Canola				
Harvested.....	93	90	NA	NA
Corn				
Harvested for grain.....	13	5	35	43
Harvested for silage.....	77	68	96	97
Dry edible beans (includes Chickpeas)				
Harvested.....	96	93	96	NA
Durum wheat				
Harvested.....	75	72	NA	NA
Flaxseed				
Harvested.....	54	49	91	NA
Other hay				
2 nd cutting harvested.....	97	94	NA	NA
Safflower				
Harvested.....	54	45	69	68
Spring wheat				
Harvested.....	92	88	97	97
Sugarbeets				
Harvested.....	26	13	57	53
Winter wheat				
Planted.....	80	60	84	91
Emerged.....	40	27	58	70
Cattle and calves				
Moved from pasture.....	48	41	53	62
Receiving supplemental feed.....	7	12	25	21
Sheep & Lambs				
Moved from pasture.....	42	29	43	71
Receiving supplemental feed.....	9	15	25	23

NA – not available

(--) – zero

DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
Days suitable for field work.....	5.0	2.4	6.5	6.1
Topsoil moisture	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Very short.....	--	--	7	10
Short.....	3	--	33	26
Adequate.....	66	67	59	56
Surplus.....	31	33	1	8
Subsoil moisture				
Very short.....	--	--	10	14
Short.....	5	6	38	29
Adequate.....	74	69	52	51
Surplus.....	21	25	--	6

NA – not available

(--) – zero

CROP, LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE CONDITION

Commodity	Current week	Previous week	Previous year	5-year average
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Corn				
Very poor.....	1	--	--	2
Poor.....	7	6	7	7
Fair.....	23	21	22	31
Good.....	60	64	52	47
Excellent.....	9	9	19	13
Flaxseed				
Very poor.....	--	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	41	44	NA	NA
Fair.....	36	32	NA	NA
Good.....	14	16	NA	NA
Excellent.....	9	8	NA	NA
Pasture and range				
Very poor.....	2	3	7	15
Poor.....	4	5	15	19
Fair.....	22	28	33	33
Good.....	50	39	39	28
Excellent.....	22	25	6	5
Safflower				
Very poor.....	1	--	NA	NA
Poor.....	3	4	NA	NA
Fair.....	43	33	NA	NA
Good.....	49	59	NA	NA
Excellent.....	4	4	NA	NA
Sugarbeets				
Very poor.....	8	9	--	NA
Poor.....	11	11	2	NA
Fair.....	16	16	9	NA
Good.....	51	50	59	NA
Excellent.....	14	14	30	NA

NA – not available

(--) – zero